

REMARKS

Claims 126–129, 133–134, 140–143, 159–170, 177–182, 188–197, 200, 204, 208–232, 234–235, 239, and 242–244 are pending.

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has allowed claims 129, 133–134, 140–143, 159–170, 177–178, 181–182, 188–197, 200, 204, 208–232, 234–235, and 239.

Applicants also note with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that claims 242–244 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have rewritten claims 242–244 in independent form in the amendment and response filed on May 2, 2006.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 126–128, 179, and 180 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as directly anticipated by Chu et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,963,817 (“Chu”). This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of these claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would expedite allowance of this application, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned attorney at (617) 570-1806.

A petition for a one-month extension of time and a check for the extension of time fee are enclosed. Applicants believe that no other fee is due for filing of this amendment. However, if any fee is due, please charge said fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 07-1700.

Respectfully submitted,

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